

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 OPR-02 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4226

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, OTRA, UY, US

SUBJ: VISIT TO U. S. BY DR. JULIO SANGUINETTI

FOR ARA/ APU STEDMAN FROM CHARGE

1. BY SEPTTEL, EMBASSY IS REQUESTING DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE REGARDING FORTHCOMING VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK OF DR. JULIO SANGUINETTI, INFLUENTIAL COLORADO PARTY LEGISLATOR AND SUB- DIRECTOR OF JORGE BATLLE'S LIST 15 DAILY, " ACCION" AND HIS WIFE.

2. ALTHOUGH SANGUINETTI STRESSED TO ME THAT U. S. LEG OF HIS CURRENT TRIP WILL BE PRIVATE AND THAT HE DID NOT SEEK FULL PROGRAM, HE CLEARLY HOPES THAT WE CAN HELP HIM WITH INTERPRETER AND SOME VISITOR ARRANGEMENTS.

3. SANGUINETTI IS ONE OF URUGUAY'S MOST INFLUENTIAL AND INTELLIGENT POLITICAL LEADERS. IT WAS HIS ALMOST SINGLE- HANDED EFFORT WHICH SUCCEEDED IN CONVINCING THE CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC OF THE NEED TO CONFRONT THE " POLITICIZATION" OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM THROUGH THE NEW EDUCATIONAL REFORM LAW. HE IS CLOSELY INFORMED ON THE INNER WORKINGS OF THE STILL- DELICATE MILITARY/ CIVILIAN POLITICAL BALANCE. I AND OTHER MISSION OFFICERS CONSIDER SANGUINETTI TO HAVE A VERY DEFINITE PRESIDENTIAL POTENTIAL

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AND IS ONE OF THOSE WHOSE ACTIVITIES WILL STRONGLY INFLUENCE
THE FUTURE COURSE OF EVENTS HERE.

4. I STRONGLY HOPE THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE CAN BE DONE TO
ASSIST DR. SANGUINETTI ON HIS WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK VISITS.
HE SHOULD OLITAN SEES WERE UNDERREPRESENTED
ON IT IN VIOLATION OF 19 28 AGREEMENT WITH ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE
OR BECAUSE IERONYMOS HAD ALLEGEDLY FORCED THROUGH NAMING OF
SYNOD WITHOUT EVEN FORMAL VOTES OF ALL BISHOPS.

3. CHURCH OFFICIALS DECLINING PUBLIC COMMENT COUNCIL DECISION
UNTIL TEXT ITS RULING IN HAND, BUT THEIR ASSUMPTION IS THAT
BISHOPS WILL HAVE TO RECONVENE AND REELECT SYNOD. BISHOPS COULD
GATHER NEXT WEE K, DESPITE NEARNESS HOLY WEEK, BECAUSE LITURGICAL
" DUMB WEEK" OR PERIOD OF NO WORSHIP SERVICES FOR SIX DAYS BEGINS
MONDAY. (COMMENT: WE DOUBT, HOWEVER, CHURCH OFFICIALS WILL
RUSH MEETING OF BISHOPS SINCE SUCH A GATHERING MIGHT HAVE
SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR ECCLESIASTICAL POLITICS, AND POSSIBLY
FOR RELATIONSHIP OF CHURCH TO STATE. BISHOPS HAVE GATHERED ONLY
TWICE DURING LIFE OF JUNTA AND LAST NOVEMBER' S SESSION LAUNCHED
TIME OF TROUBLES FOR IERONYMOS, AND INDIRECTLY FOR GOG.)

4. COMMENT: THIS IS EMBARRASSING DEVELOPMENT FOR IERONYMOS,
AND QUESTION LOGICALLY FOLLOWS WHY COUNCIL MADE DECISION ON
" MICKEY MOUSE" TECHNICALITY AND WHY AT THIS TIME WHEN IERONYMOS
HAS ONLY JUST DECIDED TO CONTINUE IN OFFICE. SOME SPECULATE
COUNCIL FOCUSES ONLY ON ADMINISTRATIVE JUDICIAL DETAILS AND GOES
ITS WAY OBLIVIOUS OF POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS ITS RULINGS.
OTHERS SPECULATE THAT GOG AT LONG LAST HAS DECIDED TO SEPARATE
FROM IERONYMOS AND WHEN PRIMATE SURPRISED GOVERNMENT BY
RESCINDING RESIGNATION WHICH HE PRESUMABLY TOLD PATTAKOS HE
INSISTED ON TENDERING, GOG DECIDED TO APPLY NEEDLE VIA
COUNCIL.
TASCA

NOTE BY OC/ T: NOT PASSED USINT CAIRO.

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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